

REMARKS

Claims 1-63 are pending in the present application. Claims 19-22 and 24-63 are withdrawn but are retained herein as directed to method claims subject to rejoinder upon allowance of a linking composition claim. Claim 9 is amended to correct a typographical error. Claim 1 has been amended herein to recite that the compound target at least an 8 nucleobase portion of nucleotides 400 to 500 of SEQ ID NO: 4. Support for this amendment can be found at, for example, page 17, lines 2-16; page 20, lines 12-13, 20 and 28-30; and page 19, lines 14-33 of the specification. Claims 64 to 66 have been newly added. Support for these claims can be found at, for example, page 19, lines 14-17 and page 76 Table 1. No new matter has been added. Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-66 will be pending.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-6, 10-14 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Oelkers *et al.* The Journal of Biological Chemistry Vol. 273(41):26765-26771, 1998. In order to advance prosecution, claim 1 is amended herein to require the compound target at least an 8 nucleobase portion of nucleotides 400 to 500 of SEQ ID NO: 4. None of the primer sequences disclosed in Oelkers *et al.* are complementary to any portion of this region. The remaining claims are dependent on claim 1. The rejection is therefore overcome.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-18 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Farese *et al.* (US 2004/0078836), Yu *et al.* (Circulation Vol. 100(18 Suppl.):I745, 11/02/1999), and Bennett *et al.* (U.S. 5,998,148). None of the references alone or in combination provide all the elements of claim 1 as amended herein. Specifically, none of the cited references teach or suggest a compound targeted to at least an 8 nucleobase portion of nucleotides 400 to 500 of SEQ ID NO: 4. The remaining claims are dependent on claim 1. The rejection is therefore overcome.


FEES

The Commissioner is hereby entitled to charge the fee for a two (2) month extension of time and for three (3) additional dependent claims to the Deposit Account 50-0252 referencing case BIOL0003US.P1.

CONCLUSION

In view of these amendments and remarks, the Applicants believe that the case is now in proper form for allowance. Prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that outstanding issues remain in the case, he is encouraged to contact the Agent for Applicant listed below to discuss the matter.

Respectfully submitted,


Melissa R. Leuenberger-Fisher, Ph.D., J.D.
Registration No. 47,747

Date: 2 April 2007

Isis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
1896 Rutherford Road
Carlsbad, CA 92008
Telephone: (760) 603-2722
Facsimile: (760) 603-3820